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TWENTY-SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LAWRENCE CITY MISSION,

PRESENTED AT THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING,

SUNDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 21, 1880.

LAWRENCE, MASS., 1880.

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LAWRENCE CITY MISSION.

Organized March, 1859.

Incorporated June, 1876.

OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT, ... GILBERT E. HOOD.
SECRETARY, ... Rev. CHAS. U. DUNNING.
TREASURER, ... JAMES H. KIDDER.
AUDITOR, ... GEO. A. FULLER.

MEMBERS FOR 1880-81.

GILBERT E. HOOD,
GEO. A. FULLER,
ANDREW SHARPE,
GEO. S. COUCH,
H. G. HERRICK,
Rev. G. W. NORRIS,
E. M. MOOERS,
J. H. KIDDER,
JOHN FALLON,
F. E. CLARK,
FRED. C. McDUFFIE,
Rev. CLARK CARTER,
J. Y. BUZZELL,
JAMES B. LYALL,
ROBERT S. SCOTT,
Rev. W. G. WELLS,
N. P. H. MELVIN,
Hon. J. R. SIMPSON,
J. P. BATTLES,
WM. WHITMAN,
HIRAM MILLS,
W. A. BARRELL,
DANIEL T. SHIPLEY,
Rev. J. D. PICKLES,
HUGH MILLS,
Rev. WM. LAWRENCE,
Rev. JOSHUA COIT,
JOHN ALDRED,
Rev. RICHARD MONTAGUE,
Rev. D. C. KNOWLES,
Rev. G. H. IDE,
Rev. R. B. MOODY,
GEO. A. SMITH,
GEO. D. CABOT,
Rev. V. T. HARTSHORN,
DANIEL W. LORD,
Rev. C. U. DUNNING,
HERMANN BRUCKMAN,
Rev. A. H. HAGER,
Rev. R. A. McAYEAL,
Rev. E. A. WHITE,
JONATHAN SLEEPER,
HENRY CHEENEY.

ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES

OF THE

LAWRENCE CITY MISSION,

NOVEMBER 21, 1880.

The twenty-second anniversary of the Lawrence City Mission, was held at City Hall, last evening, in the presence of a large audience. The exercises were opened by the singing of Tours' "Gloria in Excelsis," by the choir of Grace Church. The President of the Mission, G. E. Hood, Esq., then addressed the meeting in a few well chosen words, to the effect that it has been the custom once a year to make a general application in behalf of the mission, to our fellow citizens, upon whom the success of the mission depends, as without their aid and sympathies it could not exist. There is a christianity broader than any church, and a humanity broader than any organization. And it is a proof of this that so many are assembled to-night, as partakers in the accomplishment of that end, which is broader than any other thing. The mission can only act as the citizens choose it should, and it has never been intended as an asylum, but as a means of temporary relief. We ask you to-night to act upon it, so that we may say, as the Governor of Mass. said in his Thanksgiving proclamation, that "It is more blessed to give than to reeceive."

The choir then sang "Benedic, Anima Mea," by J. C. D. Parker, at the conclusion of which, Dr. J. H. Kidder, treasurer of the mission, presented his annual report.

Rev. C. U. Dunning, City Missionary, then read his report, a copy of which we give:

Gentlemen of the Lawrence City Mission,
Patrons and Friends:—

Webster defines charity to be "that disposition of heart which inclines men to think favorably of their fellow men and to do them good."

It was this spirit of brotherly love that, when Lawrence, as a city, was only 6 years old, gave birth to an organization unique in its simplicity, and to be effective in service, and called it "The Lawrence City Mission." The Catholicity of this institution is one of its admirable characteristics, having for corporate members the agents of our mill corporations and the pastor and one layman of each patronizing church. It brings the earnest workers of the different churches into intimate relationship, and rubs off the angles of denominationalism. A former agent of one of our mills, who had learned while here to love this Mission, a few days since expressed to us his regret that he did not find any organization doing such work, in such a way, in the city to which he had gone. For nearly twenty-two years this Mission has been doing its quiet work among the poor. Without ostentation or flourish of trumpets your noble charity, with the motto.

"HE'S TRUE TO GOD WHOSE TRUE TO MAN.'

has found its into the way homes of the destitute, the unfortunate, the sick and the discouraged with temporal relief, with consolation and with cheer. During the past year every case of suffering or need to which your Missionary has been called, has received careful consideration, and such aid rendered as the circumstances seemed to warrant. Acting for you, we have endeavored to do for those coming to us for aid what we thought would do for them, in view of the facts of the case. That

mistakes have been made is more than possible, yet we are conscious that the errors were more of the judgment than of the heart. We are told that at the foot of tropical mountain regions, the waters coming down from the mountains form a swamp, in which not only the wild beast and poisonous reptiles find a refuge; but where also dangerous miasmas and malignant fevers prevail.

The walks of your Missionary are in part through a social swamp, among a people who live on the boundary line of civilization, where christianity and heathenism can hardly be distinguished from each other. The suffering and needs of such a people are often distressing. Here too, we meet the dangerous classes, people, not only poor, but criminals, people who are ready to practics any imposition, or to commit any outrage. We confess that we have had many a struggle with the heart-hardening influences which lurk there. However, by the divine keeping we are able after nine years of this work to "weep with those that weep;" and with earnest hands to labor for the relief of human distress. We have sometimes felt like yielding this contest with poverty and crime, but then

"The drying up a single tear has more
Of honest fame than shedding seas of gore."

STATISTICALLY

we report our work as follows:—

Visits,	1549
Calls for aid,	1831
Persons aided,	1161
Garments distributed	1631
Yards of cloth given,	1501
Funerals attended,	20
Persons pledged to temperance, Adnlts, 20, children, 148,	168
Helped to hospitals and homes,	12

It would only be just to ourselves and true in fact to say that these statistics do not include our prison work, its visits, its preaching and song service of each Sabbath. Nor do they represent that large amount of auxilliary mission work done by Mrs. Dunning, by day and by night, (which only a woman can do) to mitigate the sorrows of the afflicted and to supply the wants of the needy. If these statistics fully represented the work of the Mission, they should include the visits and labors of many others who have assisted us.

The Mission horse and carriage, so unexpectedly provided by friends at the last anniversary, has proved of great service to us. By it we have saved time and strength, as well as money. With it we have been able to make a larger number of visits than ever, and to be of much more service to those to whom we have ministered. The kind regard of our friends in this matter, so far as it was personal, is very highly appreciated and will not soon be forgotten.

We have often been familiarly, yet seriously asked

HOW IS THE CITY MISSION WORK?

The question showed an interest in the health and prosperity of the Mission which was truly encouraging. It implied whether there were many who needed aid, and whether the Mission had necessary funds to meet necessitous cases. Let me say, in this public way, a word in answer to this question.

The City Mission work is such that there is no time for idleness on the part of your Missionary, very little time for social calling upon friends, and too little time for the cultivation of the mind.

Every day brings its duties. The poor never cease from the land. There are always sick persons to be visited and disconsolate ones to be consoled. One case of need is hardly provided for before one more, or two, or perhaps ten appear, often necessitating the calling in of help, especially in cold weather. But

DOES THIS WORK PAY?

asks a business man. I answer, if it ever paid it pays now. Yes, it pays in the saving of time and money. Wisely organized systematic work always pays. If it was economy in the state to organize a board of state charities, if it is economy and

best subserves the interests of the poor for a city to have a board of overseers and a central office where its charities shall be dispensed, then as an economic organization the City Mission pays. Consider that much of that which is given by private indivduals to unknown persons is wasted. This is rarely the case with what is given by an organized charity.

Here people ask for what they think they need, and aid is generally given in a way that it is not likely to be misappropriated.

Here the judgment of the applicant is not solely relied upon. Investigation follows to get at facts, and in some cases it appears that not nearly so much was asked for as was absolutely needed. In others the request is found to be greater than the need, or the need is in another direction, while some, yea many, for sufficient reasons, are dismissed without being assisted. These last after showing indignation and wrath, turn to private residences to practice their imposition, with the story that they have been to the City Missionary and he will not help them.

We advise our citizens to investigate before giving aid to such persons. If they have been to us and been refused, it is because we have facts which show them not to be proper objects of charity.

But beyond the fact of material relief, this work pays

IN ITS MORAL EFFECTS.

Whether deserved or not, we, as Americans are accused of dollar worship. Leigh Hunt disliked our proclivity for money getting, and imagined a great counter built along the American coast, from north to south, behind which we are all standing, like so many linen drapers, ready to drive bargains.

Charitable work neutralizes this spirit of avarice, draws out the sympathies and ornaments the lives of those that give.

One has said that "the truest charity work is for humane persons to be their own almoners." Doubtless this is true. It is therefore our endeavor to bring the work of this Mission as near in character as possible to that of individual giving. We try hence not to give with the feeling of the stoic, but with that hearty sympathy and close friendly contact which would be manifested by a wise individual giving at his or her home. We try to bring givers and receivers together by telling the one of sorrowful cases needing aid, and the other of the kindness of those whose gifts have supplied their wants, and of their obligations to them and not to me. And it is not uncommon to see the tear of thankfulness drop from the cheek of the recipient.

Again, your City Mission organization pays, in that it goes further than the poor laws of the State allow Overseers of the Poor to go, in this, that it knocks at the door of some who have not asked relief, whom rumor says are silently suffering under the stinging rod of adversity, and who through pride will not let the facts be publicly known.

We have often heard the question "Who sent you?" Some of our most touching experiences have been in such homes.

The following lines were composed and given us by one whom we aided, and whose heart was nearly broken by her hard lot and ill success. They illustrate the inner life of many a thin, pale face you pass upon the street, and to whom your mission has been a benediction.

Thus she moans:—

"O hard, cruel fate! O what have I done
To be tortured thus by thee?
I have labored to maintain my own,
Yet this world has nothing for me.

Early and late have I toiled to gain
My food by the sweat of my brow,
But now only sickness and sorrow and pain,
And I unto fate must bow.

My rent is now due, with nothing to pay,
I'm refused a day's work in the mill,
If a stick or a loaf I should take to-day,
A room in the jail I would fill.

Oh, what can I do? With no work and no food,
God help me! I wish I were dead.
I have tried all my life to be honest and good,
Alas! I must now beg for bread.

If there is a clime where the weary may rest
And know no more sorrow or pain,
I would I could fly to a region so blest,
And rest, without money, obtain.

Whether the City Mission pays or not, let the sick whom we found pining away, with no pastor of their own to call upon for spiritual ministrations and whose dying hours were made happier by the visits of your Missionary, answer. Let heart broken parents with no means to bury their loved dead, whose burdens were lifted by this charity, answer. Let the forlorn stranger, homeless, penniless and friendless, who was pitied, sheltered and fed, answer. Let the aged befriended and the children who were rescued from cruel hands by him whom you have employed to do this work, answer, and your doubts of the profitableness of this work, will vanish and your fears take to themselves wings.

We have often wished we could take every contributor of this mission with us for a time in our sad walks. We believe that as a consequence, instead of a few hundreds, thousands of dollars would flow into the Mission treasury. We remember once being asked by a gentleman to go with us for an evening. We started at 7 o'clock and by 9 o'clock his heart failed him and he cried, "It is enough." He went to his home a fast friend of the Lawrence City Mission.

The Mission Board, with a view to increase the usefulness of the mission, by an increase of its funds, last year tried a new method of collecting these funds. The city was districted and each district was placed in the hands of two carefully selected superintendents. These secured the best collectors they could, who should visit every family and receive if possible something from each. When the result was known the increase was found to be so small over the receipts of the previous year on the old plan, and below those of some former years, that it was the unanimous feeling of the board that a second trial of general collections through the city was not best. At the annual meeting of the mission, held Nov. 3d, it was voted therefore to return to the plan of taking collections in the churches, and to recommend, so far as convenient, that these collections be taken simultaneously on the sabbath after Thanksgiving. It remains then for us to hope that the friends of this important work will, by liberal contributions, make it more than ever a power for good in the city.

We have often thought what a proper and beneficial thing it would be if the city mission were remembered in the wills of those who would perpetuate their usefulness. Let me suggest to those who might do this, that this is an incorporate body, and under such control as must be a sufficient guarantee that bequests would be safely invested and wisely dispensed.

Concerning the indigent classes, with our experience and observation, we are persuaded that so long as benevolent forces regard only their physical wants, they cannot be very permanently useful to them. These forces should be also applied to their moral and spiritual wants. Their characters need to be changed. They need to be clothed not only with material garments, but also with a right mind. They need pure affections. They need to be inspired with something above a desire for the gratification of fleshly appetites and the supply of temporal wants. As it is hundreds barely live. They cannot go lower. The next step is out of existence. They need to know how to work so as to make it pay, and then how to get the most out of what industry gives them. For such results we have most laboriously worked while administering relief among the poor. The reward has been small, and yet there are some to-day in our city who are healthy, prosperous and happy, to whom your missionary gave primary lessons in the principles of true living, They have left the swamp of sin, and are now on higher ground. But what is one man among so many? Such a field is sufficiently large

for all who have a heart to work. You pity and pray for India and China in their idolatry 'Tis well. God approves, but don't forget that multitude in Lawrence kept from the house of God by their poverty; that multitude among us walking in the darkness of ignorance, superstition and vice.

Through the

LADIES' UNION CHARITABLE SOCIETY,

that offspring of the city mission (but in no way dependent upon it for support), much charitable work has been done. Scores of children have been blessed with a comfortable place to stay while their mothers were at work. Some sick ones. for whom it was the duty of the mission to provide, and others, have been cared for at the Invalids' Home. The changes which the society are about to make, to centralize its work, is a move in the right direction. The home has been too far away from the centre, and the nursery has lacked conveniences. These things will soon be remedied. The heartiness with which citizens have contributed toward the purchase of land for the society shows that the welfare of the poor lies near their hearts.

THE FLOWER MISSION

is another offspring of the city mission, and is doing a sweet work. It commenced its work early in June, and continued it for seventeen weeks. In this time they made and carried to the rooms of the sick, and to the homes of the aged and infirm over 400 bouquets of flowers, together with fruits and jellies as they were contributed. The number interested in this fragrant work is not so great as it ought to be. We hope that another year a thousand instead of four hundred bouquets may be distributed.

With the

BAND OF HOPE AND SEWING SCHOOL

you are well acquainted. They are old institutions, and have always been under the management of the city missionary. They draw not one dollar from the mission for support. We say this that you may know that mission money is solely devoted to relief purposes. The Band of Hope does temperance work among the children. The Sewing School aims at teaching little girls the use of the needle. The meetings are held on the afternoon of each Wednesday at 2 and 3 o'clock.

The statistics of the Band of Hope are:

Meetings,	50
Largest number present at one time,	250
Smallest number present at one time,	30
Average attendance,	98
Children pledged and received,	148

The report of the Sewing School is:

Meetings held,	32
Largest number present at one time,	40
Smallest number present at one time,	15
Average attendance,	24
Garments finished and given to the mission or day nursery,	40

The teachers were as last year, Mrs. H. F. Dunning, Miss Addie A. Hodgman, Miss Mary E. Ordway, Mrs. B. McAllister, Mrs. Flora Bowker, and Mrs. Mary Scott.

THE CHILDREN'S FREE EXCURSION

is the fourth and youngest child of the city mission. The fourth annual excursion occurred in July last, and was a success in every important particular. Fifteen hundred tickets were given out. The day was beautiful and the enjoyment of the children seemed unalloyed.

As treasurer of the excursion fund we report:

Amount in the treasury, July 1, 1889,	$264 28
Contributed for this year's excursion,	545 23
Expended for supplies, transportation and help,	475 71
Balance in the treasury and on deposit in the savings bank,	342 60

Our relations to prisoners while in prison naturally give us something to do for them when they come out.

DISCHARGED PRISONERS

are apt to have few real friends. Most people are afraid of them, and hence it is difficult for them to get work. Some cities have a society whose express work is to look after this unfortunate class.

There is none in Lawrence. It falls therefore to the lot of the City Missionary to do for them.

Some of these whom we have befriended have indeed disappointed our expectations, but not all. Some have given good evidence of thorough moral reform, and are fast gaining a good reputation by sobriety and industry.

THE FAMILIES OF PRISONERS

furnish some of our largest and most pitiable mission cases. Deprived of his labor which brought them bread, they are at once objects of charity. O, the struggles we have witnessed, of poor, half-fed, thinly clad wives and mothers to endure and preserve their homes, till the expiration of the sentence of a husband or son! We have an abiding hope that the time will come, and that speedily, when prisoners who have families dependent upon them, shall have the opportunity to work and earn something for their destitute families.

Should you ask, "Why so much poverty, crime and consequent suffering among us?" I must answer chiefly STRONG DRINK.

Few go to prison who are not addicted to the use of intoxicating beverages. Strong drink is the monster robber of a drinker's all. In the cup is lost his reputation, his character and his liberty. Here he parts with business, friends and prospects. Here expires the fire of love in his soul, as well as that on his hearth. Drink drives wife and children into the street, and reduces them to beggary and often degradation, and loads the hands of charity.

The past year we have known men, fired by appetite, to rifle the pockets of their wives of money earned at the wash-tub, and give it them for rum, and there were men mean enough to take them. Yea, and when no money could be gotten, we have known the scanty clothing of wife and children to be carried off to the rum shop and pawned for strong drink, and a woman stood behind the bar satanic enough to take them.

O, friends of humanity, how long must we be chained to this body of death? Is there no power that can sever the links that bind us as a people to this hideous monster? O, that the philanthropic men of Lawrence, whose hearts are so touched at the recital of the woes of the poor, would rise in their strength and say to this foe of human happiness; "Thus far shalt thou go and no farther." No greater contribution to the poor among us could be made.

Is not your missionary then doing appropriate work, when in the name of God, man and the city mission, he enters his daily protest by word and deed, against this hydra-headed, soul-destroying, God-dishonoring demon, strong drink?

And now we have entered upon another year. We hope it will be one of usefulness, joined with the prayer that neither we nor you may become weary in well-doing.

Many thanks are due to the officers and members of the mission, for their co-operation and kindness to us in our work during the year. We would also acknowledge the receipt of large contributions of cloth from some of our mill corporations, and of bundles of cast off clothing sent by mission friends.

Packages for the mission can be left at the mission rooms any afternoon, between 3 and 5 o'clock; or, if desired, they will be sent for on receiving notice to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES U. DUNNING.

At the conclusion of the City Missionary's report, a collection was taken up, amounting to $32,76, after which the choir sang the hymn, "Blest is the man." Rev. Richard Montague then addressed the meeting, and said in substance: It was one of the quaint sayings of Luther that a man in order to be converted must be made over in head and heart and purse. He considered this sound sense and shrewd

theology. The city mission was founded on these three pillars, wisdom, love for man and generosity. The old theory of bestowing charity was, that the truly charitable man would at once draw his purse at every appeal. This was unwise charity. It was sentimentalism, not sentiment. He did not think the Saviour's command to be indiscriminate charity.

The new theory was to discriminate, to investigate, for without inquiry, we are liable to injure more than we help. We are in constant danger of deception if we trust to every appeal. The only safe way is to send those asking aid to a paid and trained city agent. What our poor people need is often times more a friend than money, or other help. They want to feel that people are interested in them. And there is no way so good as to give our time and help to the city missionary. He did not know that the present missionary would endorse his views, but he thought that if twenty of the ladies present would go to him during office hours, and say that they would help him, he would welcome them. He wished to suggest this. He would like them to give their time to it, and to pledge themselves not to give their money without the consent of the missionary.

At the same time this mission cannot succeed as in the past, unless we give our means as well. He did not argue for less means, but for more of their time. their love, their money.

Rev. G. W. Norris was the last speaker, and said in substance, that twenty years experience in the ministry, had satisfied him that indiscriminate charities offered a premium to laziness, and made an increase to crime. He considered this mission a good thing, because it was just the discrimination needed, and he had seen the condition of other cities where there was no such organization. The churches next Sunday were to be asked to give their annual offerings, and he hoped they would contribute generously, both for their own sake, and as an incitement to those who would give as outsiders.

The exercises then closed by the singing of the doxology, and the benediction by Rev. D. C. Knowles.

It is particularly desired that the public should bear in mind that Dr. Kidder's report is made up to the 1st of October, and that the apparent large balance in the bank, has in reality been reduced to almost nothing by subsequent payments.

ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

TREASURER OF THE LAWRENCE CITY MISSION.

Received from the collectors appointed by the Board:	
From Rev. Joshua Coit	$278 90
Rev. Clark Carter	34 55
G. E. Hood	269 90
G. A. Fuller	89 55
H. G. Herrick	125 15
E. M. Mooers	86 50
O. D. Rideout	33 25
D. T. Shipley	76 83
D. W. Lord	69 72
J. Sleeper	25 63
George D. Cabot	119 76
Hugh Mills	32 95
Andrew Sharpe	136 46
Swedenborgian friends	25 00
Special collection by C. U. Dunning	47 38
Common Council fines	16 15
Received by C. U. Dunning from various sources	44 00
Amount	1,511 68
Payments to C. U. Dunning	1,130 69
Balance on hand	$380 99

SALARY FUND.

Balance from old account	$285 25
Received from Lawrence Gas Co	25 00
" " Atlantic Mills	150 00
" " Pacific Mills	363 75
" " Lawrence Woolen Co	22 50
" " Pemberton Co	67 50
" " Everett Mills	105 00
" " Washington Mills	247 50
" " Essex Co	150 00
" " Lawrence Duck Co	45 00
" " Arlington Mills	75 00
" " Russell Paper Co	20 00
" " Stanley & Co	15 00
" " E. Davis & Son	10 00
" " Butler & Robinson	10 00
Amount	1,591 50
Paid City Missionary salary	1,375 00
Balance on hand	$216 50

I have examined the account of the Treasurer of the Lawrence City Mission for the year ending October 1, 1880, and find the same correct, with proper vouchers.

GEORGE A. FULLER, AUDITOR.

LAWRENCE, Nov. 20, 1880.

BAND OF HOPE FUND.

RECEIPTS.

From Rent of Hall,	$108 29
Allowed on Bills,	8 05
Proceeds of two entertainments,	226 20
From sale of stove,	5 00
Collected by Dr. Clara Rogers,	58 00
" " Mrs. J. C. Bowker,	2 00
From L. Beach, Jr.	10 00
	$417 54

EXPENDITURES.

Band of Hope and Sewing School incidentals,	$14 80
Band of Hope Papers,	24 80
Land Rent,	78 00
Furniture, stove, carpeting, &c.,	78 90
Addition and repairs on building,	144 17
Expenses of two entertainments,	38 23
	$378 90

Amount in Treasury Oct. 1, 1880, $38 64.

C. U. DUNNING, Treas.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

—OF THE—

LAWRENCE CITY MISSION.

ARTICLE I. NAME.

The name of this Association shall be the "LAWRENCE CITY MISSION."

ARTICLE II. LOCATION.

This Association shall be established and located at Lawrence, in the County of Essex, of the Commonwealth of Masssachusetts.

ARTICLE III. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Association is the management and direction of such of the public charities of the city of Lawrence as may be entrusted to it, together with a general philanthropic and moral work.

BY-LAWS.

FIRST.—MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of the Lawrence City Mission shall be held at such time and place in the month of November each year, as the City Missionary shall appoint; and notice thereof shall be sent by mail, at least three days before.

SECOND.—SPECIAL MEETINGS.

Special meetings may be called at any time by the City Missionary, notice thereof being given in the same manner as the regular meetings.

THIRD.—OFFICERS.

The officers shall be a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor. The City Missionary shall be ex-officio Secretary.

FOURTH.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

The duties of the officers shall be such as usually pertain to their positions, and such as the society may impose upon them.

FIFTH.—TERM OF OFFICE.

The Officers shall hold office for the term of one year, and until their successors are appointed.

SIXTH.—MEMBERS.

New members may be admitted by vote at any regular or special meeting.

SEVENTH.—ALTERATIONS.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Corporation regularly called, notice of the proposed alteration being given in the call for said meeting.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the LAWRENCE CITY MISSION, in the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts, for the purposes of the Mission, and for which the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being, shall be a sufficient discharge.